In my last address to you, I had indicated a broad outline of the programme of work of my Government for the current year. You will be happy to note that most of the suggestions contained in my address have been carried out.

Public Services.

The integrity and efficiency of the Public Service being of paramount importance in the field of administration, my Government have already carried out a scheme of all round revision in the pay scales of Government employees with particular emphasis on the raising of the emoluments of low-paid employees to reasonable levels. This would certainly contribute to contentment in the services which in turn would add to efficiency.

A Department of Enquiries has been constituted to look into delays and allegations of corruption. It is expected that with substantial betterment of service conditions and close watch of the activities of Departments, there will be noticeable improvement in the administration.

Land Policy.

Among the salient features of the Land Revenue Administration during the financial year 1955-56, the most important one is the enactment of Edavagai Rights Acquisition Act passed with the object of conferring full proprietory rights on the tenants of the Edavagai lands of Kilimanoor, Vanjipuzha, Poonjar and Edappally by acquiring the rights of the Edavagai Chiefs over these lands on payment of lawful compensation. The result of the legislation is that with effect from 1st April, 1956 the tenants of these lands get full proprietory rights over the lands subject to the payment of basic tax as in the case of other registered holdings without being liable to pay any compensation for the same.

Another mile stone in the land policy of the State is the enactment of the Travancore-Cochin Prevention of Eviction of Kudikidappukars Act by which Kudikidappukars are assured permanent rights of occupancy in the Kudiyirippus. The legislation benefits a large section of landless class who were put in the lands belonging to others without any permanency.

A number of measures for land legislation consistent with the declared policy of the nation towards the achieve-

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